

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
HOUSTON DIVISION**

MATTHEW ZORN,

*Plaintiff,*

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, *et al.*,

*Defendants.*

Civil Action No. 4:22-CV-02396

**JOINT MOTION FOR A STATUS CONFERENCE AND TO  
CONTINUE THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT A TRIAL SCHEDULE**

Plaintiff, Matthew Zorn, and Defendants, the United States Department of Justice, et al., request that the Court set this matter for an in-person status conference and that the Court continue the February 23, 2024 deadline for the parties to file a proposed scheduling order. In support of this request, the parties show the Court the following:

1. On February 12, 2024, the Court issued an Order denying Plaintiff's motion for a preliminary injunction on the First Amendment claim. Doc. 91. The Court further Ordered the parties to submit a proposed scheduling order for an expedited trial on the merits by February 23, 2024. *Id.*
2. On February 16, 2024, the parties met and conferred about the schedule and next steps forward in this case. After conferring, the parties agree that further guidance from the Court would assist the parties in proposing a path forward that will be acceptable to the Court. Without further clarification from the Court, the parties will likely have to file dueling proposals and potentially objections.
3. The parties request that the February 23, 2024 deadline be continued. The parties further request that the Court set a new deadline as needed at the requested status conference.

For the foregoing reasons, the parties respectfully request that the Court set this matter for a status conference and continue the February 23, 2024 deadline to file a proposed schedule.

DATED: February 22, 2024

Respectfully Submitted,

ALAMDAR S. HAMDANI  
United States Attorney

s/Jimmy A. Rodriguez

Jimmy A. Rodriguez  
Assistant United States Attorney  
Southern District of Texas  
Attorney in Charge  
Texas Bar No. 24037378  
Federal ID No. 572175  
1000 Louisiana, Suite 2300  
Houston, Texas 77002  
Tel: (713) 567-9532  
Fax: (713) 718-3303  
[jimmy.rodriguez2@usdoj.gov](mailto:jimmy.rodriguez2@usdoj.gov)

BRIAN M. BOYNTON  
Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

ELIZABETH J. SHAPIRO  
Deputy Branch Director

/s/ James Powers

JAMES R. POWERS  
Trial Attorney  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch  
1100 L St. NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 353-0543  
[james.r.powers@usdoj.gov](mailto:james.r.powers@usdoj.gov)

Attorneys for Defendants

/s/ Matthew C. Zorn

Matthew C. Zorn  
Yetter Coleman LLP  
[mzorn@yettercoleman.com](mailto:mzorn@yettercoleman.com)  
811 Main Street, Suite 4100  
Houston, TX 77002

T: (713) 632-8000  
F: (713) 632-8002

Attorney for Plaintiff

**CERTIFICATE OF CONFERENCE**

Defendants have conferred with Plaintiff about this motion and the parties agreed to jointly seek the relief requested.

*s/Jimmy A. Rodriguez*  
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Jimmy A. Rodriguez  
Assistant United States Attorney

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on February 22, 2024, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was filed with the United States District Clerk for the Southern District of Texas and electronically served on all counsel of record via the District's ECF system.

*s/Jimmy A. Rodriguez*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jimmy A. Rodriguez  
Assistant United States Attorney